

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Liberty Tire Recycling Fire - Removal Polrep  
Final Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region IV

**Subject:** POLREP #2  
Polrep 2 and Final  
Liberty Tire Recycling Fire  
B44Z  
Louisville, KY  
Latitude: 38.0479227 Longitude: -85.8844517

**To:** James Webster, USEPA R4 ERRB  
Robby Francis, KYDEP

**From:** Art Smith, On-Scene Coordinator

**Date:** 1/8/2015

**Reporting Period:** 11/3/2014-11/4/2014

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Background**

<b>Site Number:</b>	B44Z	<b>Contract Number:</b>	
<b>D.O. Number:</b>		<b>Action Memo Date:</b>	
<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Response Lead:</b>	PRP	<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Action
<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>	
<b>Mobilization Date:</b>	11/3/2014	<b>Start Date:</b>	11/3/2014
<b>Demob Date:</b>	11/4/2014	<b>Completion Date:</b>	11/4/2014
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>		<b>RCRIS ID:</b>	
<b>ERNS No.:</b>		<b>State Notification:</b>	11/3/2014
<b>FPN#:</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #:</b>	

**1.1.1 Incident Category**

Emergency response to an uncontrolled fire at a tire recycling facility.

**1.1.2 Site Description**

Industrial Tire Recycling Facility

**1.1.2.1 Location**

Liberty Tire Recycling  
14201 Bohannon Avenue  
Louisville KY

**1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**

Release of hazardous substances to the air via combustion of shredded tire piles and potential runoff

due to fire suppression activities.

### **1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results**

Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection (KDEP) contacted USEPA on November 3, 2014 for assistance in responding to a tire fire. USEPA, USEPA ERT, and START Tetra Tech responded to assist including deployment of air monitoring equipment. Reports are that 800,000 passenger tire equivalent (PTE) are involved in the fire and the facility was attempting to segregate and salvage a remaining 800,000 PTE from catching fire. No runoff was observed leaving the site during daylight hours on November 3, 2014. A shelter-in-place evacuation was established for a 1-mile radius around the site by Pleasure Ridge Park (PRP) Fire Department.

## **2. Current Activities**

### **2.1 Operations Section**

#### **2.1.1 Narrative**

##### **2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

The responsible party hired environmental cleanup contractors to assist with fire extinguishing and runoff containment. The fire extinguishing efforts consisted of constructing an earthen cap to smother the burning rubber, and applying foam intermittently. The fire was extinguished by 1200 hrs. on 11/4/2014.

The PRP Fire Dept. remained on-scene to protect exposures to surrounding buildings until the fire was put out.

USEPA and KDEP deployed air monitoring equipment to measure particulates in downwind areas within the community to identify levels at which the shelter-in-place evacuation can be lifted. The Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness recommended to the PRP Fire Dept. that the evacuation be lifted after the fire was extinguished. Louisville Metro Safe put out a community notification on 11/4/2014 at 1454 hrs. that the evacuation was lifted.

On 11/4/2014, USEPA and KDEP met with the responsible party contractor CTEH to inspect runoff control measures in the surface drainage feature located downgradient of the site. Minor pockets of an oily mixture were observed in several areas, indicating the presence of runoff from the fire. Controls on runoff were determined to be adequate at the time of this inspection.

USEPA, and Tetra Tech START demobilized on 11/4/2014, marking the completion of the emergency phase of this incident.

##### **2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)**

Liberty Tire Recycling  
1251 Waterfront Place, 4th Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

##### **2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

<i><b>Waste Stream</b></i>	<i><b>Medium</b></i>	<i><b>Quantity</b></i>	<i><b>Manifest #</b></i>	<i><b>Treatment</b></i>	<i><b>Disposal</b></i>

## **2.2 Planning Section**

### **2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

#### **2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

Continue inspection and removal of oily wastes from surface drainage pathways as appropriate. This

work will be conducted under the supervision of the KDEP Superfund Branch

#### 2.2.1.2 Next Steps

#### 2.2.2 Issues

### 2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

### 2.4 Finance Section

#### Estimated Costs \*

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
Tetra Tech START	\$10,000.00	\$8,200.00	\$1,800.00	18.00%
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	\$10,000.00	\$8,200.00	\$1,800.00	18.00%

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

### 2.5 Other Command Staff

No information available at this time.

## 3. Participating Entities

### 3.1 Unified Command

PRP Fire Dept., USEPA, KDEP, Louisville Metro Health and Wellness

### 3.2 Cooperating Agencies

## 4. Personnel On Site

No information available at this time.

## 5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

## 6. Additional sources of information

### 6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

[www.epaossc.org/libertytirerecycling](http://www.epaossc.org/libertytirerecycling)

### 6.2 Reporting Schedule

## 7. Situational Reference Materials

No information available at this time.